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# TRAINING TIMES

Vol. 25 No. 11

Serving the 100th Area Support Group communities of Grafenwoehr, Hohenfels and Vilseck

June 8, 2004

# Graf construction budget not in danger

BY ALLISON ECKEL
TRAINING TIMES STAFF

In a ceremony May 26 in Grafenwoehr, Russell Hall, director of Installation Management Agency – Europe, and Dr. Wilhelm Weidinger, government president of the Upper Palatinate, renewed their governments' commitment to Efficient Basing – Grafenwoehr. This renovation-and-expansion plan for the Grafenwoehr Training Area is now in its third of a proposed seven years.

"We are reconstructing the 7th Army Training Command headquarters into a more modern facility to help bring them into this modern age of training," Hall said.

The timing of the ceremony was fortunate. Rumors that IMA-E is in financial trouble began circulating in late April after the agency conducted its mid-fiscal year budget review and found that some caution in spending was needed. Since IMA-E is funding the Grafenwoehr renovations, including the German contractors doing much of the work, questions regarding the Army's long-term residence here began.

Hall and Weidinger are both confident that this project will continue, unaffected by IMA-E's recent budgetary woes.

"We now have seen three years in which [Congress has] supported this operation, and I believe in all good faith that they will continue to do so," Hall said.

"I rest assured that the immense contracting volume of approximately 640 million euro for the planned military and educational facilities and the infrastructure will continue to be handled economically and efficiently," Weidinger said.

The local German government has good reason to care about the future of the Grafenwoehr post. The 100th Area Support Group and its tenant units employ 3,641 local nationals at an annual payroll of approximately 131 million euros, which is funded by the U.S. defense budget. The additional 640 million euros referred to by Weidinger is for work yet to be done under EB-G.

In addition, much of the new construction, as well as ongoing maintenance-and-repair projects and service functions, are provided by German firms working under contracts with the 100th ASG and its tenant units. In fiscal year 2003, the awarded contracts totaled more than 222 million euros.

Americans who live in the Grafenwoehr area because of the U.S. Army also contribute greatly to the local economy. Approximately 12,100 Americans live off post in communities surrounding the installations of 100th ASG. Combined, their annual rent, telecommunication and utility bills amount to roughly 19 million euros.

Under the EB-G vision, the Grafenwoehr base will be modernized and its facilities expanded to house and serve an additional 3,500 Soldiers and their families.

"At this point, our plan is to consolidate the organizations that we have up in the Giessen-Friedberg area and move that [brigade] down here." Hall said.

Additional quality-of-life improvements will include a new commissary, a Post Exchange and a housing area with its own school. Plans have also been made to expand the medical and dental clinics.

Construction of new off-post housing areas is already under way. This portion of the plan exists outside of the EB-G budget.

"This is a multiyear program that [uses] what we call 'built-to-lease,' ... the family houses of our Soldiers will be built by dollars from German investors. And we think that's a win-win operation for both Germany and the United States," Hall said.

The win-win aspect of EB-G, Hall said, is much greater than real-estate investment.

"In gross terms, [EB-G] brings tens of millions of dollars worth of work support and dollars that go back into the local communities when our Soldiers go out onto the economy and partake of the German culture and all the host-nation friendships that they've developed," he said. "And so, in terms of money, it's in the tens of millions, but in terms of reality, it's priceless because the relationships you build here are just priceless to both our countries."



### Big hand for Dad

The part-day preschool class at the **Grafenwoehr Child Development Center** models T-shirts they decorated with patriotic handprints of red and blue in honor of their military parents. Because many of their fathers are Soldiers who will be deployed this Father's Day, the children hold a banner expressing their unflagging support. The class is pictured with its teachers, Tammie Koontz (left) and Mindy Kelley, who organized the May 17 artistic activity. Each child took his or her own shirt to school that day, and the center supplied all the tempera paint necessary for unhampered creative expression. The children did the rest.

Photo by Allison Eckel

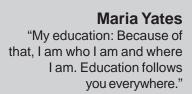


In honor of Father's Day, 'Training Times' wondered, "What's the best piece of advice your father ever gave you?"



**Darren Hargrove** 

"Always look a man in his eye, and he'll respect you. In order to get respect, you give respect."







Paula Shulha

"'Do it now,' and 'Don't be greedy.' They have proved to be really good."

Sam "Crash" Lancaster
"Never stop learning. Learn
something new every day."





**Betty Jones** 

"My grandfather's advice was, 'Find a man who's good to his mother, and he'll be good to you.' And it's so true – I've been married 41 years!"

Interviews and photos by Allison Eckel

# Don't allow media to pressure you

BY KATHLEEN GIBBS 100th ASG Public Affairs Officer

The press, both German and American, has recently had several news stories about Americans in Germany. Most of them are precipitated by the war in Iraq. Some of them are more prosaic: graduation of our high-school seniors and construction projects on post. Occasionally, you may be approached by a member of the press and asked to give your opinion on a subject that will most likely be linked to the U.S. military's presence in Germany.

The first thing that I would ask you to remember is that as an American citizen you are free to speak your opinion about anything and everything. And just as importantly, you are free not to share that opinion with a reporter if you don't wish to. In other words, it's your choice.

The second thing that I would ask you to remember is that you can refer the reporter to your local public affairs officer without comment. Whether you comment or not, please contact your PAO after the interview to tell him or her what happened.

If you choose to speak to the reporter, I would ask that you discuss only those matters over which you have direct responsibility or personal knowledge. Don't

repeat as official information what you have read in *Stars & Stripes*, as that isn't official information. Official Army information only comes from the commander of the unit concerned or the PAO. If you share your opinion about political matters, be sure to stress that this is your personal opinion, not that of the U.S. Army. But be aware,

especially if you are in uniform, that your opinion will very probably be reported as how all Soldiers (or family members or civilian employees) feel about an issue. Also

be aware that you could be providing the enemy with propaganda material if you stoop to grumbling or thoughtless complaining.

Do remember OPSEC, or "operational security." We have many husbands and wives in Iraq and Afghanistan whose lives you could put in jeopardy if you discuss classified information: information regarding future, in-progress or cancelled operations; exact troop strengths or casualties; specific capabilities of weapon systems or equipment; political or foreign-policy matters; or rules of engagement.

If faced with these questions, you may say, "Due to the security and safety of our Soldiers, I

cannot discuss future operations," or "That information is classified," or "I am not qualified to talk about that," and then refer him to the local PAO.

Never lie to a reporter. Don't make off-the-record comments, and don't attempt to cover up a negative situation.

*If you do* 

not know, say,

"I don't know."

If you do not know, say, "I don't

know." You won't look stupid, because your "I don't know," won't be used in the story.

If a reporter tells

If a reporter tells you that you shouldn't call the

PAO, because then he won't use the interview, then he is telling you that he plans to be unethical. All reporters know that you should call the PAO when asked for an interview, so don't let yourself be bamboozled into giving out information that you shouldn't.

Lastly, don't sign media personnel onto the post. The only people authorized to sign reporters, photographers or videographers on post are the public affairs officer and his or her staff.

You can reach your public affairs officer at these numbers: 100th Area Support Group, 475-1600; 409th Base Support Battalion, 476-1600; 282nd BSB, 466-2398; or 7th Army Training Command, 475-7776.

Hurrah to the 409th Base Support Battalion community members:

When they speak, they are heard! On April 15, an on-post shuttle service was implemented at Rose Barracks, Vilseck. The route begins at 9 a.m. from the PX/Commissary bus stop and transits the entire main post every 30 minutes. Some of the most frequented stops are Soldiers' billeting, central processing, family housing, the dining facilities, the gym and the medical clinic.

The initiative was put into action after several concerns were identified through the Army Family Action Plan, addressing the lack of bus service to transport individuals and groups between offices and other support facilities.

This is a positive step in supporting and improving the



hvanah:

quality of life in the community. Get the word out, so that this will become a viable service that will be well-utilized.

Fred Jones 409th BSB transportation officer

Hurrah to whoever dreamed up the idea of giving us spouses discounts on May 27 [for Military Spouse Appreciation Day]. I was so excited to get my car washed in Grafenwoehr for half price! I just wish I had known about it before that day, so I could have taken advantage of the other specials.

Jodi McGovern

Hiss to the organizers of the student talent show at Vilseck Elementary [May 21]. I'm all for letting our kids perform and do the things that interest them, but not

when it means they act like Brittany Spears and dance to suggestive songs in front of everybody. I can't believe the school let fifth- and sixth-graders bump and grind in public. It was wrong. I hope never to see something like that.

Maureen Gregson

\*\*\*\*

Submissions to Hisses and Hurrahs should be sent via e-mail to the editor at cara.matlock@graf.eur. army.mil, or faxed to 475-7935. Please include a brief description of the episode, along with your name and community, a telephone number or e-mail address, and the name of the person you deem worthy of mention, if known. Identities of those to be censured or criticized should not be revealed: We wish to invoke only private shame,

### **Training Times**

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# Local Kontakts receive kudos

BY KARL WEISEL 104TH AREA SUPPORT GROUP PAO

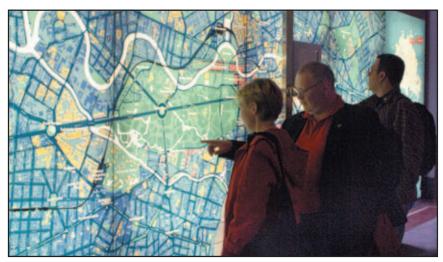
At a time when German-American relations may sometimes appear strained at the highest levels of government, members of a volunteer group have dedicated themselves to encouraging friendship and cultural understanding at the grass-roots level.

U.S. Army Europe and German dignitaries met representatives of more than 20 Kontakt clubs in Berlin on May 25 to acknowledge this four-decade effort and celebrate achievement.

During an awards ceremony, the three chapters of the 100th Area Support Group garnered accolades. Kontakt Vilseck won the High Achievement in Community Action category. The Grafenwoehr club was honored for High Achievement in Group and District Development.

Individual awards were also given. Praised for their "outstanding support and dedication" were Patty Boraas, Karin Renner, Hollis Smith, Heidi Stadlmeier, Amanda Voegerl and Norbert Wittl of Hohenfels; Tanja Mertmann of Vilseck; and Anni and Walter Brunner, Wolfgang Glowania, Elizabeth Jones, Andria Sterkl and Birgit Voit of Grafenwoehr.

When Christel Kliesch, German president of the Bundes Verband für Internationales Kontakt Gruppen (the umbrella organization that supports Kontakt clubs) took over as coordinator of the Amberg Kontakt Club in 1981, she said that among the many activities enjoyed by German and American members were support of Soldiers on border duty and partnership shooting events leading to



Kontakt members examine a map of Berlin during a tour of the 'Rotes Rathaus,' or city hall. More than 20 clubs sent representatives to Berlin for the awards ceremony, which was held May 25.

prestigious marksmanship badges.

"Amberg was a small post, and we had a very active club," said Kliesch. "We took care of Soldiers on border duty. We used to bring them Christmas cookies and cheer. We'd take a bus out with German members and sing Christmas songs."

Kliesch said she joined the Vilseck Kontakt Club when the Amberg military community closed in 1992.

"Now with the troops being deployed in many areas, those clubs are doing more to support Soldiers and their families," she said. "More families are getting involved with Kontakt. It helps make the newcomer families feel more at ease in Germany."

Helping newcomers become oriented is a vital part of the Kontakt experience for Elizabeth Jones, vice president of the Grafenwoehr Kontakt Club.

"A lot of people come over to Germany and don't know how to read their bills, how to get a telephone and so forth. They get so frustrated," Jones said. "When we get them into Kontakt, they see that not only do we help them, but they have a lot of fun too."

Interaction with other community organizations, such as the Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program, the library and the bowling alley, are all ways the Grafenwoehr chapter stays fresh and remains an important part of the community, Jones said.

"We have about 200 members military and civilians."

"It keeps me young," said 74-yearold Walter Brunner, a member of the Grafenwoehr Kontakt Club for the past 11 years. "I like the American

See Kontakt, page 7



Photo by Allison Eckel

Sgt. Michael Daly of the 1st Infantry Division Band, Bamberg, plays taps at the May 25 memorial service for Staff Sgt. Joseph Garyantes.

# **Tributes paid** to 'top' tanker

BY ALLISON ECKEL TRAINING TIMES STAFF

A memorial service was held May 25 for Staff Sgt. Joseph Garyantes, 34, who was hit by sniper fire on May 18 in Muqdadiyah, Iraq, while on a combat patrol. Assigned to Company B, 1st Battalion, 63rd Armor Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, in Vilseck, Garyantes, was remembered by commanders and friends as "the perfect tanker with the perfect family."

"Everyone wanted him on their team during sports, and everyone wanted him on their tank," Garyantes' platoon leader, Capt. Jonathan Boggiano, said. "He was the best tanker among us."

In 1991, Garyantes entered the Army and completed training as an armor crewman. His assignments brought him to the 100th Area Support Group twice: first to Hohenfels and finally to Vilseck.

It was of beginnings and endings that Sgt. 1st Class Douglas Merritt spoke. He and Garyantes met as barracks neighbors while stationed together with the 1st Battalion, 4th Infantry, in Hohenfels.

"He was a little, skinny guy who talked almost as much trash as I did," Merritt said. "He lectured new privates about the dangers of dehydration with a Pepsi in one hand and a lit cigarette in the other."

Nearly 10 years later, Merritt found himself in Germany again. After signing for his housing, he went to greet his new neighbors. He found Garyantes in the first house.

"I was proud to see we both had families and were both doing something good with our lives," Merritt said.

Garyantes will be posthumously awarded the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart and the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal. He is survived by his wife, Monica, and his sons, Tevin and Ryan.



Photo by Kevin Young

### On parade

An unprecedented crowd of approximately 300 turned out for the annual Memorial Day parade in Vilseck on May 31. In step at the head are (left to right) former mayor of Vilseck Anton Englhart, 409th Base Support Battalion commander Lt. Col. Joseph Moore, Vilseck mayor Hans-Martin Schertl, Jake Johnson of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9334 and Vilseck city council member Willi Ertl. Behind them are members of the Vilseck American High School JROTC color guard, followed by military units, various organizations and community members.

# Soldiers help Iraqi pilots bring crop-dusting up to date

BY SPEC. KIMBERLY SNOW 196TH MOBILE PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT

Soldiers of Multi-National Force Iraq in Baqubah recently began an operation to help pump a little gas into the local economy of Diyala province. In a cooperative effort between Iraq's ministry of agriculture and MNF-I, Iraqi pilots began crop-dusting the province's date palm fields on May 14. It was the first time Iraqi pilots had flown in their airspace since Operation Iraqi Freedom began more than a year ago.

This joint operation covered nine areas in Diyala province and continued for two weeks — until the end of the date-spraying season — said Chief Warrant Officer 4 Phil Owen, aviation operations officer for the 1st Infantry Division. Owen, who coordinated initial efforts with the ministry of agriculture, said the spraying would cover an estimated five to eight square kilometers per day. He explained that spraying is critical to the operation of Iraq's date palm industry. About 60 percent of the world's dates come from Iraq, and of those, about 65 percent come from Diyala. Because it was so important, the ministry of agriculture had requested MNF-I support, he said.

'This is really an Iraqi operation; it's their equipment, their pilots, their chemicals, their mechanics," said Owen. "The only thing we're providing them so far is some fuel and lubricants, and we're giving them a place to secure their aircraft at night. Other than that, it's their operation 100 percent."

The ministry of agriculture's head pilot, Capt. Muntadhar Mohamed, began meeting with MNF-I representatives more than two months ago to help coordinate the operation. An agriculture pilot for the past 24 years and trained in the United States, he said the MNF-I had supplied the operation

with 10,000 liters of fuel.

"The most important thing is the security," he said. "We did a good job of cooperating together."

Hussein Ali-Tahir, a pesticide-analysis specialist with the ministry of agriculture who earned a PhD in chemistry from the University of Dublin, certified the chemicals, which he said were not dangerous to humans or animals. Ali-Tahir said date crops had been sprayed for more than 50 years.

"Every year we apply [the pesticide] to use against these insects," he said, referring to the white fly and the fruit fly. "All the date palm [crop] last year was infected, so Army support is really good, because we needed that. It is very important to us; it is important for the people."

The only real concern was the chemicals' effect on bees, said Owen. Local beekeepers were notified the night before, so that they could take protective measures.

1st Lt. Michael Adams, 1–4 Cavalry Regiment aviation liaison officer to the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, took over the project when the crop-dusting began and coordinated airspace, flight routes and logistical issues through military channels.

"These pilots are heroes," he said. "They are risking their lives for the people of Iraq, knowing that insurgent forces might try to disrupt this operation."

The aircraft were Russian-made MI–2 helicopters, purchased from Poland in 1985. Though initially sent to the military, the ministry of agriculture took them shortly thereafter to use as crop-dusters. Two aircraft had been pieced together from the parts of 17, said Owen. The pilots, however, were not military pilots, he said.

"All of the pilots work for the ministry of agriculture. Some of these pilots have been flying 15 to 20 years. They're all just regular



Photo by Spec. Kimberly Snow

A Russian-made MI–2 helicopter takes off to begin crop-dusting the date palm fields of Iraq. Spraying began on May 14 and covered an estimated five to eight square kilometers per day throughout nine areas in the Diyala province over the next two weeks.

crop-dusters, just like we have back in the States. That's their job."

Adams said the second aircraft was to perform a test flight on May 20 and anticipated that it would be ready and in use the next day. He explained that this aircraft was built in 1955, making it almost 50 years old.

"This shows the determination of these guys to get them up and repair them," he said. "The result is that the crops won't be destroyed, and that's extremely important to them. The spraying is stimulating the economy by providing farmers and merchants with jobs."

After the date palm operation, the pilots would continue to spray other crops, such as wheat, rice and corn, said Adams. Based on the success of that operation, he said, they would most likely move on to other provinces in the country and continue spraying throughout the year.



Photo by Sgt. Maj. Larry Lane

### All mapped out

Col. Kelly Fisk, senior brigade observer-controller for the Combat Maneuver Training Center, discusses the positioning of forces on a terrain map at the Torgau 2004 exercise, held in and around Moscow May 17 to 22. Named after the German city where Russian and American Soldiers met in the final days of World War II, Torgau is the first exercise of its kind, involving senior U.S. and Russian personnel combined in a single headquarters staff. Participants were from the 7th Army Training Command, the U.S. Army Southern European Task Force (Airborne) and Russia's combined arms academy.

### In brief

### **Birthday blowout**

The Army will celebrate its 229th birthday on June 14.

Several dining facilities in the 100th Area Support Group will offer expanded lunchtime menus.

In Hohenfels, the Association of the U.S. Army will host a community picnic on 1st Battalion, 4th Infantry's Warrior Field at 2 p.m. The event will feature live music, roast pig, grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, and birthday cake.

### Installation access update

As of June 1, handheld scanners were to be in use at all points within the 100th Area Support Group except for Gate 2 in Vilseck and Gate 6 in Grafenwoehr.

Driver's licenses and registration documents are required only at these gates or during random inspections.

At entrances where scanners are used, only a valid ID card or installation pass is required.

### 100th ASG drums up talent

The 100th Area Support Group Battle of the Bands and Stars of Tomorrow competition is set for July 10 at 3 p.m. in the Hohenfels Community Activities Center.

Bands, solo musicians, vocalists, duets, groups (instrumental and vocal) and specialty acts are encouraged to enter. Youths and adults will be judged separately.

The event is open to all U.S. ID cardholders. Winners will advance to the Army Europe 25th anniversary competition, to be held Aug. 21 and 22 in Illesheim.

For information, call Sports and Recreation at 475-6167/7165/7576.

### Overseas tax deadline looms

The deadline to file a 2003 tax return for Americans living, working or stationed overseas is June 15. The Internal Revenue Service grants an automatic extension to these taxpayers, and no advance application is necessary. An APO, FPO or foreign return address on the return is sufficient for the IRS.

This extension to file, however, is not an extension to pay. If an overseas taxpayer owes upon filing, he will be charged interest as of the regular due date, April 15.

For more information, call the installation tax office: 475-7777 in Grafenwoehr, 476-2289 in Vilseck or 466-2401 in Hohenfels.

# Earth Week promotes conservation, recycling

BY ALLISON ECKEL
TRAINING TIMES STAFF

Protecting the Earth through recycling was the theme of an Earth Day festival May 28, held outside of the Grafenwoehr BookMark.

Sponsored by the Environment and Utilities divisions of the Directorate of Public Works, the festival was the finish to a weeklong celebration of the Earth and its natural bio-systems. The event was held one month after the official U.S. Earth Day and two months after the official International Earth Day to take advantage of warmer May temperatures.

As a protected German federal "biotope," a region that has uniform environmental conditions, plants and animals, the Grafenwoehr Training Area is a fitting place for students and adults alike to learn how to care for the planet.

Earth Week events included hazardous household-waste collection day at the Grafenwoehr Self-Help store, as well as tours of local recycling and waste-treatment plants for German and American schoolchildren. For its story hour, the Grafenwoehr library chose

tales about nature. Second- and third-grade students traveled to the lake in nearby Eschenbach for lessons in bird-watching.

To promote the Separate or Recycle Program at Friday's festival, DPW offered information about SORT, including displays and descriptions of the colorcoded recycling receptacles used on each installation. The blue one, for example, is for metal and aluminum cans; plastic bags used to hold the cans must be put into the yellow plastics bin.

A flea market promoted the recycling of one's former treasures. William McDaniels perused the tables seeking the unexpected.

"You never know what it [will be] worth," he said. He found a porcelain teapot to match a cupand-saucer set he already owns.

"It's a good idea to make a market here," Magda Merkl said. She and her neighbor Daniela Foth-Meidenbauer had three tables filled with goods.

The children seemed to have the most fun, earning prizes for answers to such questions as, "How many times can a glass bottle be recycled?" (Answer: "Endlessly.")

"It's good to recycle," 10-yearold Ashia Jamison said when asked what she had learned during the festival.

Free helium-filled balloons — which should not be recycled in the yellow plastics bin — and ice cream were given away by DPW staff members.

The German utility company E-On demonstrated the amount of energy required by light bulbs of various wattages. By pedaling a bicycle fixed to a generator, children used their legs and energy to power the bulbs.

First-graders were able to generate between 105 and 140 watts. Fifth-graders could produce up to 280 watts. By midday, only teacher David Dinges had provided enough power for the highest bulb, at 350 watts.

"From the bike, I learned that the harder you go, the more electricity can be generated," Adriano De Jesus, 10, said.

That lesson was echoed by 11-year-old Michael Vacanti.

"I learned that it takes a lot of strength to get it over 245 [watts]. Now, I'll think about not wasting a lot of energy."



Michael Vacanti, 11, pedals furiously to illuminate a light bulb connected to a bicycle-powered generator. Part of the Earth Week festival. held out of doors near the Grafenwoehr BookMark on May 28, the apparatus was used to show how much energy is consumed by bulbs of different wattages. The celebration followed a week of activities designed to teach everyone - but especially children - the importance of being 'green.'

Photo by Allison Eckel

# VES students raise money for Iraqi aid

BY ALLISON ECKEL
TRAINING TIMES STAFF

The student council of Vilseck Elementary School presented its first talent show May 21 as a way of raising money to buy school supplies for Iraqi children. *Live:* Showtime at the VES featured performances by students in fourth, fifth and sixth grades.

Twenty-four students strutted their stuff during the hour-long program held on the small stage in the gymnasium of School Age Services. Faculty sponsor Jacqueline Rabie did not mind the cramped conditions, however.

"For our purposes, I'm not sure that the size of the stage mattered too much. ... We were just grateful that SAS let us use their stage, since the elementary school is not equipped with one," she said.

Indeed, for the 10 solo acts, the venue seemed perfect. Three of the four singers did what few professionals will do: sang without musical accompaniment.



Rebecca Hawkenson put that oft-dreaded music class staple, the recorder, in a good light by playing Mary Had a Little Lamb. Two pianists, a guitarist and a violinist each showcased his instrument with such melodies as Orange Blossom Special by Ervin T. Rouse and Good Riddance by Green Day.

The rest chose to emulate their favorite popular recording artists by singing or dancing along with prerecorded music.

Comedy was not overlooked by these young performers. Randy McWilliams, Nick Muñoz and Michael Yates acted as joint emcees, covering transitions between acts with brief routines. Following Elizabeth Hawkenson's vocal rendition of *Bring on the Rain* by JoDee Messina, they emerged with umbrellas.

"It was really exciting," Nick said of his first time performing for an audience.

Also in the comedy category was Eric Clay, who told jokes by comedian Jeff Foxworthy, whose redneck humor was well-received by the audience.

During the show, the student council raised \$64 for their gift. According to Rabie, however, that

Nick Muñoz and Michael Yates (left to right) served as emcees for Live: Showtime at the VES, a talent show held at Vilseck **Elementary School** on May 21 to benefit Iraqi schoolchildren. After Elizabeth Hawkenson had sung Bring on the Rain, the trio returned to the stage carrying umbrellas.

Randy McWilliams,

Photo by Allison Eckel

was not the only positive result. "It was successful because the student council was able to provide a venue for their classmates to show off their extracurricular hobbies. It was successful because teacher and parent volunteers really helped us get everything together. It was successful because the students performers and behind-the-scenes workers – walked away feeling good about themselves and what they accomplished," Rabie said. "If there is enough interest again next year, I hope that there will be a Showtime at VES: Take 2."

### In brief

### Scholarship recipients

Michelle McGuire and Lucie Zaryova of Vilseck American High School have received \$1,500 awards from the Scholarships for Military Children program.

A native of Oklahoma City, Michelle plans to major in accounting at the University of Central Oklahoma.

Zaryova will attend North Georgia College and State University, where she will major in sociology. She is from Liberec in the Czech Republic.

### **Green Waste Disposal Area**

The Vilseck Green Waste Disposal Area, located across from the Self-Help Store, is open 24 hours a day.

Grass, weeds, leaves, bushes, branches, mulch, potting soil and other organic products can be disposed of there. Plastic bags, boxes, food waste and packaging should be removed.

Packing material can be turned in at the on-post recycling center.

#### Bank closure

The Grafenwoehr Community Bank will be open only from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 9 for staff training.

On June 10, the bank will be closed for a German holiday.

### When a stranger calls: Never open your door if uncertain.

# Halt assault

### Avoid becoming a victim by taking these safety measures

BY ALLISON ECKEL TRAINING TIMES STAFF

The German countryside may be safer than your neighborhood back home, but keep in mind that your safety is directly related to your actions, no matter where you are. The Department of the Army has launched a campaign to help everyone understand that sexual assault can be prevented.

In a tip sheet titled Sexual Misconduct Awareness, DOA states that in the majority of reported rape cases, the victim had been alone, under the influence of alcohol and either in an unfamiliar place or in an unlocked barracks room. So drink alcohol in moderation, never go out alone, lock your barracks room whether you're home or not, and consider these other tips for personal safety:

- If you must walk or jog alone, try to do it during the day. Stay in well-traveled, well-lit areas.
- Have your key ready before you reach the door of your home, car or office.
- If you think that you're being followed, change your direction and head for an open store or restaurant.

- Never open the door of your home to strangers. Ask sales and service people for identification and if you're unsure, call their companies for verification.
- If giving directions to a motorist, stand back from his car; never lean into the window.
- **>>** Beware of isolated indoor spots such as laundry rooms, underground garages and stairwells. If you must be there, try to find someone to go with you.
- If you come home to a broken door or window, do not enter. Call the military or German police from a cell phone or another
- → Always lock your car after you get in and when you get out.
- Never hitchhike and never pick up hitchhikers.

Following these tips will reduce your risk of victimization. If it does happen to you, however, go immediately to a medical clinic or hospital and report the incident to the military police or your unit chain of command. If you preserve all physical evidence of the crime and report it right away, the MPs have a good chance of catching and prosecuting the assailant.

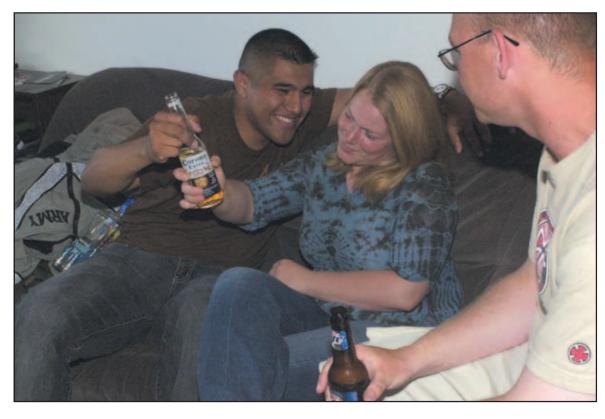


Avoid isolated places, such as laundry rooms during off hours.



Photos by Kevin Young

Don't go jogging alone through the woods or in other remote areas (above). Always keep your wits about you - especially when alcohol is involved - and never drink too much (left).



### Kontakt

friendships and the contacts we've maintained. We've had many friends home, and we keep in touch through e-mail."

For Wiesbaden Kontakt's Wilhemine Aufmkolk, a German member from Gross-Gerau, joining the club has meant finding a new family of friends and helping injured Soldiers at the Landstuhl Army Hospital.

"My husband and I were very impressed and welcomed as family," upon joining the

club last year, she said. "It's a good opportunity to make friends. I think the Americans did a lot for us and we should give something back.

"You get to meet a variety of nationalities in the club and strike up friendships for life. ... When people make personal contacts, they discover that they aren't so different and share many similarities," said Aufmkolk. Working with the club, she collected

backpacks, items of clothing and Easter goodies, which they distributed to recovering Soldiers at the Landstuhl hospital.

"Many of them arrive without any clothes to travel home in or a backpack, so that's why we decided to help the Soldiers Angel Foundation," Aufmkolk said.

Kliesch believes Kontakt must continue. "One can't give up," she said. "I think we

have to keep it alive as an organization - at

the grass-roots level especially – where you can involve young people ... to give them a chance to get to know the country. ... There's an awful lot of history here, and America is still a young country. ... It's important for Kontakt to be visible and to verify that Germans are people, just like you."

To join the Kontakt Club in your area, call 475-1600 in Grafenwoehr, 476-3599 in Vilseck or 466-4294 in Hohenfels.

### An American bald eagle takes flight from a falconer dressed in traditional garb at Hohenwerfen castle, a 1,000year-old fortress



Hohenfels JROTC students explore a craqqy World War I trench located deep in the forests of Slovenia.

# Snapshots From Slovenia

# When Hohenfels' JROTC traveled to the site of a World War I battle, a 'Training Times' reporter was invited along

Memorial Day weekend was no vacation from study for the 10 students and eight adults who traveled from Hohenfels to Slovenia on a JROTC educational trip.

Organized by their JROTC instructor, retired Army Maj. Dan Parker, the trip was the culmination of several weeks' study. For more than a month, the students had learned about the World War I Battle of Kobarid (also known as the Battle of Caporetto), and especially the role of a certain young lieutenant

named Erwin Rommel, who would become one of Adolf Hitler's most formidable field marshals. The students were split into opposing sides, and as they

studied the battle, they devised solutions to its problems from the standpoint of either the Italian army or the Austro-Hungarians. They eventually wrote operations orders for each side, which they compared to historical records. Finally, each student was asked to prepare a briefing about Rommel's troop movements during a specific part of the battle.

The Battle of Kobarid would not consume this trip, however. A variety of activities, both educational and recreational, were planned for every day.

The first stop was Hohenwerfen castle in Austria, a fortress that has been in continuous use for 1,000 years. There the group was given a tour and a falconry demonstration. Of the numerous birds, Tony Mower patriotically declared that "the American bald eagle" was his favorite — an opinion shared by many of his countrymen and -women.

The first full day of the trip included tours of the caves in Postojna and the Lipica horse farm, where the renowned Lipizzaner breed is raised. Liz Pears found the caves "fantastic," and the two-kilometer train ride into the mountain gave the group a chance to see some of the largest rock formations in Europe. Petting the famously graceful white horses was also an unexpected treat.

The second day began with a bumpy ride up to the ruins of a fortification in Planika, perched on a mountain above the town of Dreznica, where the group stayed. Sturdy shoes and flashlights were necessities as the group walked through trench lines, climbed up hills and explored the pitch-blackness of the underground chambers. Guiding the tour was a denizen of Dreznica who had spent his life exploring and maintaining the ruins above his town.

At the summit, the group suited up for white-water rafting. Helmets, life vests and wet suits were distributed for their trip down the Soca, a bluish-green river of near-freezing water.

"The rafting was a real treat," said Susan Green. But not without incident. In one rough patch, two went overboard – including this reporter. Nevertheless, after both had been hauled back in, a drenched Brittani Lowe insisted. "Falling out of the boat was the best part!"

Sunday was devoted to visiting the museum in Kobarid and retracing Rommel's steps as the students recounted their assigned portions of the battle.

They were unanimous in their opinion that seeing the battleground increased their understanding of the material they had studied. "It was a window into the past," said Courteney Green.

"It was great to see it firsthand, instead of just reading about it in a textbook," said Curtis Armstrong.

The adults on the trip agreed.

"Walking the ground gave me a greater appreciation for what they did, both militarily and personally," said Barry Graham.

That evening some of the adults had a chance to mingle with Slovenians when they happened upon a woodcarving festival. Talking to them gave the Americans a chance to learn about the people and their traditions, which Darin Blancett considered the best part of the trip.

"They were so willing to share their history, their culture and their language," he said.

On the final day, the group was invited by a local man to see his collection of World War I artifacts, which he had amassed from battlefields over many years. Helmets, bayonets, bottles, rifles, gas masks, mess kits — all the stuff of war was contained in his attic.

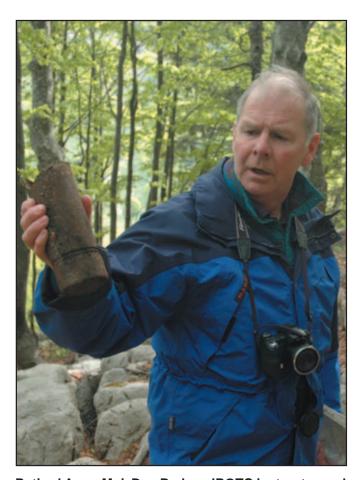
Michele Wolfe praised this makeshift museum for teaching the group "about history not found in books."

Barry Graham was equally impressed. "There was no politics," he said. "It was done with an appreciation for the soldiers of both sides who fought in the battle."

On the way home, the final excursion was a drive up the steepest road in Austria, the Grossglockner. High above the tree line with more than a foot of snow still on the ground, the group lunched and posed for a final photograph. Attendees not previously mentioned were Matt Blancett, Christina Compton, Alex Cruz, Mary Beth Graham, Connor Green, Isabel Parker and Stephen Pears.

During his return trip to Hohenfels, Armstrong reflected on his unique experience, musing aloud, "How often does an American come to a place they learn about?"

Story and photos by Alice Adler



Retired Army Maj. Dan Parker, JROTC instructor and Battle of Kobarid buff, shows his students an expended World War I artillery shell he found while exploring the battlefields of Slovenia.



At an informal museum set up in the curator's attic. Liz Pears examines a collection of ammunition from World War I, including several unexploded shells (on floor behind her).



Their hair bedecked with wildflowers plucked from a meadow. Brittani Lowe, Christina Compton, Mary Beth Graham and Courteney Green (left to right) take time out from their military studies to survey the valley and its surrounding mountains.

#### Off post

#### Grafenwoehr and Vilseck

- The band Country Green will perform on June 11 at *Scherm Karl* in Eschenbach. Doors will open at 7 p.m., and the concert will begin at 8. For information, call 09645-918638.
- Vilseck will throw a beach party at the outdoor swimming pool downtown on June 18 at 2 p.m.
- The *Fischerfest* in Vilseck June 19 and 20 will feature fish, fish and more fish on the *Festplatz Ziegelanger* (take the small road from the fire station downtown).
- The *Altstadtfest*, or "city festival," in the historic city center of Amberg is set for June 19 and 20.

#### **Hohenfels**

Go cycling in Lupberg June 13. The event will comprise five marked tours: tour 1 features a 30-kilometer route and is open to everyone, including families; tour 2 caters to moun-tain bikers with a new, 52-km, off-road route; tours 3 through 5 are for experienced riders and range from 80 to 156 km. Sports drinks and fruit will be offered to riders along all routes. For more information, call the Parsberg tourist office at 09492-905767 or visit www.Radsport-Lupberg.de.

#### Libraries

#### Grafenwoehr and Vilseck

The 409th Base Support Battalion Summer Reading Program will begin on June 14 and run through July 26. Nature and the World Around Us is the theme this year. Children can earn prizes and attend the end-of-summer celebration, which will feature a nature walk, a hot-dog roast and a canoe ride. For more information, call 476-1740 in Vilseck or 475-1740 in Grafenwoehr.

#### Hohenfels

The book club will meet on June 28 at 6 p.m. Newcomers are welcome. Call the library at 466-1740 for details.

### Army Community Service

### Grafenwoehr and Vilseck

- The next Welcome to Bavaria class is set for June 14 to 18. Learn German words and phrases, take trips into the local towns, and have lunch in a Bavarian restaurant.
- $\bullet\,$  Army Family Team Building will host Family Fun in the Sun on June 16 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Call ACS at 476-2650 or 475-8371 to sign up for either of these activities.

### Hohenfels

- A newcomers' orientation is scheduled for June 14 through 18, beginning at 8:30 a.m. each day. The first session will meet in the Community Activities Center, Bldg. 40. To register, call 466-2861/2081.
- The Exceptional Family Member Program invites enrollees to its New Directions support group. The group meets at ACS, Bldg. 317, on the first Wednesday of each month from 10 to 11 a.m. Families can exchange ideas, enhance their problem-solving skills, and learn more about diagnoses and the available resources. For more information, call Cheryl Carter at 466-2083/4860.

### Resource center offers new classes

The Vilseck Family Readiness Group Resource Center, Bldg. 273, offers free drop-in seminars from 9:30 to 10:30 on selected mornings. The following are scheduled:

- June 8 Party Planning on a Budget
- June 9 Finance: Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?
- June 11 Bavarian Monopoly: Discovering Local Wonders
- June 21 Crafts and Stories for Babies and Toddlers
- June 22 Fun Shopping! Fun Savings!
- June 23 Finance: Travel on a Shoestring
- June 24 Arts and Crafts Kids Gallery Glass
- June 25 German Culture: Let's Do Lunch!

No registration is necessary, and children are welcome in the center's unsupervised play area. All spouses are invited – not just those of deployed Soldiers.

Call Army Community Service at 476-2650 for details.



File photo

### When in Prague

Prepare for a trip to the Czech Republic by attending the next cultural morning at the Grafenwoehr Library, set for June 18 from 10 until noon. Virtually undamaged during World War II, the capital city of Prague features a maze of cobblestone streets, ancient courtyards, a 1100-year-old castle and the Moldau (above), its banks lined with such landmarks at the National Theater. Take a make-believe tour with the Grafenwoehr ITR team, then join the library staff for a quick language course to learn greetings and useful phrases. For more information, call 475-6231.

### **Arts & Crafts Centers**

### Grafenwoehr

Turn pieces of Polish pottery into a wreath at a class scheduled for June 25 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. The fee is \$7.50, plus the necessary supplies: a miniature tea set, ribbon and a grapevine wreath. For more information, call 475-6101.

### Vilseck

- Learn to make throw pillows June 17 from 5 to 7 p.m. The fee is \$7.50, plus the cost of supplies.
- A children's craft camp is set for June 22 through July 2. The class will meet on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 1 to 2:30 p.m. each day. Creative thinking and artistic skills will be developed, and the results will be displayed in a gallery at the conclusion. The fee is \$10 per session or \$45 for all six (families enrolling two or more children will receive a 10-percent discount).

For more information about either activity, call 476-2652.

### Hohenfels

- Binding and stippling will be taught on June 23 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. The fee is \$10.
- Christmas in July will be the next project of the weekly quilting class, beginning July 14. Classes meet on Wednesdays from 6 to 8:30 p.m. in Bldg. 18.

For fees or other details about these classes, call 466-2538.

### **Scouts**

If you enjoy making friends, working with girls and taking care of your community, consider volunteering with a local Girl Scout troop. The following positions are available: troop leaders and consultants, hut manager, public relations specialist, cookie sale manager, event coordinator, registrar, recruiter/troop organizer, secretary, shop resale manager, treasurer, trainer and chairwomen for various committees. Training will be provided. For more information, call Barb Cross at 09472-907669.

### Trips and tours

### Grafenwoehr and Vilseck

- Hike through the Bavarian Alps June 18 to 20. Fee of \$159 includes transportation, accommodations and breakfast.
- Go white-water rafting in Austria June 25 to 27. The

fee is \$129.

• Outdoor Recreation will take a scuba-diving trip to Leipzig July 2 to 4. Divers can explore a clear fish-filled lake. Registration is required by June 18. Prices vary according to equipment rental fees.

To sign up for any of these trips, call 476-2563/2866.

### Hohenfels

- A day in Europa Park is set for June 19. The fee is \$60.
- Go shopping in Poland on June 26. The cost for one seat is \$55; those who anticipate a large number of purchases can get two seats for \$85.

For more information about these trips, call ITR at 466-2225.

### Youths

### Grafenwoehr

The Teen Center's next fishing excursion is set for June 25. Equipment is provided by Outdoor Recreation, and registration is required. For more information, call 475-7402 or 476-2563.

### Hohenfels

Center at 466-4492.

- A trip to Six Flags Belgium is scheduled for June 12. Sign up at the Teen Center, Bldg. 72.
- Excursions to local pools are planned throughout the summer. On June 23, a group will go swimming in Neumarkt, and a trip to Westbad in Regensburg is planned for June 26. For more information about these trips, call the Teen

### Job opportunities

- The 409th Base Support Battalion's Exceptional Family Member Program seeks adult respite-care providers. Applicants must be at least 18 and willing to undergo a basic health screening. The program will provide materials and nine hours of training, after which the provider will be added to a referral list. Payments will be based on patient-provider agreements. Those interested should call Army Community Service at 476-2797.
- The Outdoor Recreation offices of Grafenwoehr and Vilseck have temporary positions for college students who wish to help with the summer youth program. For more information, call Wolfgang Schultes at 475-7402.

## Hohenfels could be ASG

BY ALLISON ECKEL

TRAINING TIMES STAFF

Last month, the 409th Base Support Battalion began the yearlong task of merging its command with that of its parent, the 100th Area Support Group. Yet one question could not be answered: What will happen with the 282nd BSB? Director of the Installation Management Agency – Europe Russell Hall provided part of the answer May 26 during a visit to Grafenwoehr.

"I would not merge the 282nd into the 100th because of its distance," Hall said. Two possibilities remain: Leave the 282nd BSB as a satellite installation that reports to the merged 100th ASG or "build them both up so that they report directly to me," Hall said. "I have asked [100th ASG commander] Col. [Richard] Jung

to conduct some analysis on whether or not, and what it would cost, if I ... made it look just like the 100th in capability."

For the 282nd to remain a BSB that answers to the merged 100th ASG, Hall said, would not be unprecedented. Fort Story, a satellite component of the U.S. Army Transportation Center in Virginia, is in a similar situation.

"Fort Eustis is the parent; it has a commander of a colonel level. The commander of Fort Story is a lieutenant colonel. Lieutenant colonel working for colonel – we have the same relationship that we can have right here with Hohenfels and Grafenwoehr," he said.

So, will the 282nd be, in effect, left alone, or will it be built up to the level of an ASG? The analysis of which would be better for the Army is due June 30.



Kelly McHugh as the locksmith and Jennifer Robinson as **Little Red Riding Hood discover that** their key fits the lock to the closet where **Grandma** is trapped during a performance of Red Riding Hood in Hohenfels on May 23. The children staged the play after participating in a workshop given by the traveling Missoula Children's Theatre company. Bringing with them costumes and sets, two directors and four student directors molded a group of 38 novices, who ranged in age from 5 to 18, into a working cast in less than a week of rehearsals.

Photo by Alice Adler

Who's afraid of going onstage?

### Local children present 'Red Riding Hood'

BY ALICE ADLER
TRAINING TIMES STAFF

Children of all ages from the Hohenfels community showcased their talents on May 23 in two performances of *Red Riding Hood*.

The play was staged after the children had participated in a workshop given by the Missoula Children's Theatre. This nonprofit organization out of Missoula, Mont., assembles teams of actors and directors who travel around the world putting together productions of children's plays in one week's time at each location. This year, the company will visit 50 states and 26 countries, taking their sets, scripts and costumes with them.

After holding a day of auditions, the team of two Missoula directors and four student

directors proceeded to shape an inexperienced gang of 38 children, aged 5 to 18, into a performing troupe with a few days of rehearsal.

During their European tour, Missoula directors Barzin Akhavan and Alycia Delmore will travel to 16 military posts staging performances of *Red Riding Hood*. Akhavan was particularly excited to have the opportunity of sharing this production with the children of deployed military personnel.

"It's awesome to bring this to the kids with deployed dads," he said. "It's a week for them not to worry about it."

Akhavan said he has been thrilled with the response and awed at the level of talent displayed in the communities.

The children agreed that their production was wonderful and said they looked forward to doing

it again next year.

Participating were Brittany Blancett, Joey Brocious, Lindsey Brocious, Chesna Burleson, Heather Bursik, Sydney Coakley, Jamie Cox, Nina Cox, Clara Cushing, Lauren DeLaRosa, Mathew DeLaRosa, William Duvall, Brandi Fennell, Victoria Garnes, Mary Beth Graham, Teshaunna Helme, Amy Hoeh, Katie Hoss, Melissa Kahler, Milina Klucki, Carolina Lechner, Catey Lechner, Julian Lopez, Kelly McHugh, Kristen McHugh, Laura Meckley, Phoenix Pittman, Nathan Reline, Christina Reynolds, Alita Riley, Jennifer Robinson, Juli Robinson, Meggie Rodman, Sean Salas, Tina Squires, Dominique Tolbert, Halliah Tolbert, Lillian Wolfe, Eric Wollersberger, Nina Wollersberger, Jenesse Wright and Ryan Wright.

### Main event

A local German judo class gave a demonstration at the Asian-Pacific Heritage Month Celebration, held May 28 in the Community Activities Center. During the event, Jessi Robinson won a bicycle raffled off by the Army and Air Force Exchange Service.

Photo by Kevin Young





# Graduates say good-bye

BY ALICE ADLER
TRAINING TIMES STAFF

Going to a small school can be difficult; just ask any of the students at Hohenfels High School. But graduating in a class of 25 has its advantages. This small number enabled the graduation ceremony — the first held in the new high-school building — to be a more personalized event.

The evening began with a slide show of recent photos and baby pictures of the graduates, accompanied by statements of their post-graduation plans. Principal Maureen Belanger opened the ceremony, calling it, "A rite of passage from childhood into adulthood." She spoke fondly of the class, noting that amongst the graduates were four students who

had been new to Hohenfels this year, and one who had attended since kindergarten.

Belanger expressed her pride that the class had collectively earned almost \$500,000 in scholarships and that "they left no senior behind – in fact, they picked up a junior!" a reference to Ashley Butler, an accelerated 11th-grader who was graduating.

Valedictorian Jarod Taylor was next to speak. He highlighted the importance of dreams and goals, naming fellow graduates and describing their efforts to achieve.

"If you want huge success, then you have to set huge goals," Taylor said.

Chris Saucedo, 282nd Base Support Battalion deputy garrison commander, gave the keynote address, setting the tone for the presentation of diplomas with, "Tonight you will begin to test these wings of freedom."

Honors diplomas went to Taylor, Jonathan Garcia-Marcano and Joanie Lee Martinez.

As each student received a diploma from Belanger and Col. Mike Davis, the "class will" that he or she had written was read aloud. Teary-eyed recipients included families, friends, teachers and coaches. Students were given roses, which they, in turn, presented to the people they felt had made a difference in their lives.

The ceremony was capped off with a reception that featured a cake, complete with 25 blue-robed figurines, each of which had been painted to resemble a graduate, with accurate hair color, skin tone and even, in one case, a goatee.

Photos by Alice Adler Twenty-four Hohenfels students were graduated in a ceremony June 4 (above). Whitney Clemmons thanks one of her favorite teachers by giving her a rose and a farewell embrace (below).



### In brief

### Dining facility award

The 1st Battalion, 4th Infantry dining facility in Hohenfels won the large category of the 2004 Philip A. Connelly Awards at the European level.

The facility will advance to the finals, representing Installation Management Agency – Europe in the Department of the Army competition.

The staff will be recognized at a ceremony in December.

### Community garage sale

A garage sale will be held at the Community Activities Center on July 3 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The fee to participate is \$25 for a 10-by-10-foot space, including two tables and two benches. A schedule of fees for larger spaces is available. The event is open to all U.S. ID cardholders, and spaces will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

Call 466-2340 for information.

### Gym bag searches

The Olympia Fitness Center and the post gym have begun conducting ID card and bag checks on all who enter during peak times.

### Closures

- The Hohenfels Community Bank will be open only from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on June 9 because of staff training. The bank will be closed June 10 for a German holiday.
- The Viper Photo Lab will be closed June 14 to 18 for training. Those who will require a photographer during this time should call 476-2639 for an appointment.
- The basketball court at the post gym is closed while the floor is being resurfaced. When the court reopens in six to eight weeks, only players who come with their clean, nonmarking shoes in hand

- will be allowed to use it.
- The gym itself will be closed June 18 for semiannual cleaning. The Olympia Fitness Center will be open during this time.
- The 282nd Base Support Battalion S-1 will offer limited customer service on June 16, when the floors will be waxed. Ration cards will be issued only from 10 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
- The 1st Battalion, 4th
  Infantry dining facility will be
  closed June 19 through July 6 for
  block leave. The 282nd Base
  Support Battalion dining facility
  will be open during this time.

### Car wash tokens

Tokens for the MWR Auto Crafts Center car wash are now available for purchase at the Lane 17 Bowling Center, the Community Activities Center and the SurfNet Café, as well as the Auto Crafts Center.

# Health clinics to remain open later

100TH ASG HEALTH CLINICS

The three health clinics within the 100th Area Support Group will increase their hours and services beginning June 22.

All the clinics will now offer full capabilities into the evening. Vilseck will be open on four evenings per week, as well as on Saturdays. Grafenwoehr will add X-ray, laboratory and pharmacy services during evening hours, meaning fewer referrals to outside care. The acute-care area in Grafenwoehr will cease to exist, because these patients can now be seen in the primary care clinic.

The new hours for all three clinics will be as follows:

Monday to Wednesday
Thursdays
Tridays
Tridays
Ta.m. to 7:30 p.m.
1 to 7:30 p.m.
7 a.m. to 3 p.m.
9 a.m. to noon.
Sundays and holidays
(training and American)
Closed

Another change will be an increased number of appointments, which will be available at more times throughout the day. This will make it more likely that a patient can get an



-ile photo

Starting June 22, the three health clinics of the 100th Area Support Group will stay open four evenings a week — as Hohenfels (pictured) has for some time.

appointment at a convenient time.

In the past, some clinics offered only sick call on Thursdays. Now appointments will be available to active-duty and nonmilitary beneficiaries at all clinics on this day.

When the clinics are not open, the following resources are available:

**Healthcare Information Line:** This toll-free number is manned 24 hours a day by American nurses trained in telephone

triage. They can answer basic health questions and help determine whether you or your child needs to see a provider. The number is (0800) 825-1600.

German clinics and hospitals: For illnesses or injuries that cannot wait until the next morning, beneficiaries are encouraged to take advantage of clinics and hospitals in the local communities. As for paperwork, the visit can always be approved after the fact.

On-call patient liaisons: Each community has a patient liaison available by telephone 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Especially in emergencies, they can help with communication between American patients and German providers. The patient liaisons may be contacted through Emergency Operations Centers, military police stations or the admissions desks of hospitals.

**On-call provider:** A military provider will always be available by telephone. They should be used in situations that require the opinion of or an evaluation by an American provider. They may be contacted through EOCs, MP stations or patient liaisons.

### Get fired up to help others kick habit

The Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine – Europe will conduct a tobacco-cessation training program on June 18 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the classroom of Hohenfels Health Clinic.

All materials and manuals will be paid for and provided by the center's Department of Health Promotion and Wellness. Upon successful completion of the workshop, participants will be certified as American Lung Association instructors and receive 8.1 continuing education credits.

According to the ALA Web site, of the 46.2 million Americans who smoked in 2001, more than 32 million said they would like to quit.

To register, call the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center's Health Promotion office at 486-7099/8555.

## Fair focuses on food, fitness

BY ALLISON ECKEL
TRAINING TIMES STAFF

The Community Health and Fitness Fair was held May 21 and 22 at the Grafenwoehr Field House. Co-sponsored by the 409th Base Support Battalion Sports and Fitness department and the 100th Area Support Group health promotions coordinator, the fair brought together many agencies for an informal, hands-on information forum.

Attendees could try such fitness classes as spinning and resist-a-ball. Sarah Fogel, recreational assistant for fitness in Vilseck, offered fair-goers tips for achieving a healthy lifestyle: "Drink water and less juice and soda. When you go shopping, park farther away and walk. Work out 35 to 45 minutes at a time; 10 minutes is just a warm-up."

In the gymnasium, agencies such as Women Infants and Children, Army Community Service, the Red Cross, the dental clinic and the safety office answered questions, gave demonstrations and offered free samples.

Representatives from the chaplain's office were also present.

"We're here for spiritual health and fitness ... for all faiths," chaplain's assistant Sgt. Jesse Hazelet said.

The Grafenwoehr Arts and Crafts Center partnered with WIC to present healthful meal ideas. Kathy Henderson of Arts and Crafts cooked two menus at the fair and offered tastes to attendees. Selections included red beans and rice, black-eyed peas



Photo by Allison Eckel

Kathy Henderson serves whole-wheat pasta in a light cheese sauce to Dan Fraizer during the Community Health and Fitness Fair, May 21 and 22 at the Grafenwoehr Field House.

and corn bread, and whole-wheat pasta with fat-free evaporated milk, garlic and Parmesan cheese.

Medical Company, said.
Gray had additional de advice for parents: "Hav

"These are easy to prepare, inexpensive, light, healthy meals," she said. The Arts and Crafts Center periodically offers cooking classes, some of which welcome children.

Situated opposite the free food was the dental clinic table, where dentists and dental assistants were on hand to answer questions.

"How often you eat sugar is actually more important than the amount [of sugar]," Capt. Kale Gray, a dentist with the 561st Medical Company, said.
Gray had additional dental
advice for parents: "Have your
kids come in [to the dental clinic]
before they have problems, so
they have a positive first experience with the dentist."

In addition to gathering a variety of information, some attendees won prizes. The Army and Air Force Exchange Service gave away an adult-sized bicycle and a weight bench, and the Defense Commissary Agency donated a shopping cart filled with healthful food, worth approximately \$100.

# New rules for shipping up cost of wine sipping

USAREUR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Many Americans start a wine collection while stationed in Europe and want to send it to the United States when their overseas

tour ends. Vinophiles should be aware of changes to the Department of the Army reimbursement policy for shipments of alcohol.

As in the past, a local commercial exporter must ship wine collections and comply with individual state and Internal Revenue Service

rules, as alcohol cannot be shipped with household goods or through the U.S. Postal Service.

Previously, the government reimbursed collectors for the entire cost of these separate shipments. Now, however, only the amount it would have cost to ship the same weight of household goods with a government carrier will be paid. Under this new system, the total cost of the shipment will probably not be covered.

Within the 100th Area Support Group, those who received outbound transportation briefings on or before May 6 will be exempt.

To ship alcoholic beverages to the United States, first get written permission from the local transportation officer to procure a carrier. This document will be required

> when filing for reimbursement.

Once written permission has been obtained, contact the alcohol-control board in the state to which the collection will be sent for a list of conditions imposed on alcohol shipments, quoting the amount, type

and cost. These authorities will know the rules for imports and the method for paying any taxes.

Find a local merchant who ships wine collections internationally. Most transportation officers have a list of such companies.

Call your military customs office to learn more about shipping alcoholic beverages home or consult the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms' Web site at www.atf. treas.gov/alcohol/info/persimp.htm. Links to alcohol-control boards can be found at www.hqusareur. army.mil/opm/state.htm.



Summer in Bavaria offers almost limitless possibilities for cyclists. Explore the countryside or go mountain biking with Outdoor Recreation. Even cycling to work can net you a free bike jersey - if you cover 1,000 km within a calendar year.

File photo

## Bicycle season shifts into high gear

BY ALLISON ECKEL TRAINING TIMES STAFF

As summer approaches, bicycle season comes speeding in. Throughout Bavaria, bicycling is a popular pastime, because no license is needed, and safe passage is almost guaranteed on bike paths and country lanes. Whether you like to ride in organized events or wander, the German countryside is a cycler's paradise.

For scenic road riding, welllabeled routes enable riders to go on their own or participate in organized tours. The green-andwhite signs depict a bicycle and bear the route name and an arrow to direct riders through curves and villages.

Brian Jansma, manager of Grafenwoehr Outdoor Recreation, said that a cyclist's first task should be to find a map of the

labeled paths. Available in German bookstores, maps by such publishers as Fritsch and Kompass, he said, provide "a scale that's easy for biking purposes." The Rathaus in some towns may also sell maps of local bike routes.

If you want to ride but don't have a bicycle, ODR will rent you one, complete with helmet and bike lock. Daily rentals of touring bikes are \$9; the weekend will cost you \$14, and the week is \$20.

If riding trails is more your speed, Outdoor Recreation offers weekly mountain bike outings on Thursdays, departing from Vilseck ODR at 4 p.m. The cost is \$5, which covers any transportation required to get you to the trail.

If you plan to ride a lot of trails in a season, consider ODR's package deal. The one-time payment of \$75 includes all Thursday rides, the season's

worth of bike maintenance and service (not including parts), maintenance instruction if desired and a 10-percent discount on select overnight bike trips.

Even those new to mountain biking are always welcome on the Thursday rides. Personnel from ODR can provide pointers for firsttimers, and rent you a bike, helmet and lock for \$10 a day, \$20 a weekend and \$40 a week.

Anyone seeking an incentive to pedal farther can participate in the 1,000-kilometer program, sponsored by the Installation Management Agency – Europe. Ride on roads or trails for at least 1,000 km in a calendar year to earn a free bike jersey emblazoned with the U.S. Army Europe logo of the flaming sword. Visit ODR for forms to track distance, and go back to ODR with your completed sheets to claim your prize.

62 Hogwarts' librarian,

with at the zoo

One of Columbus'

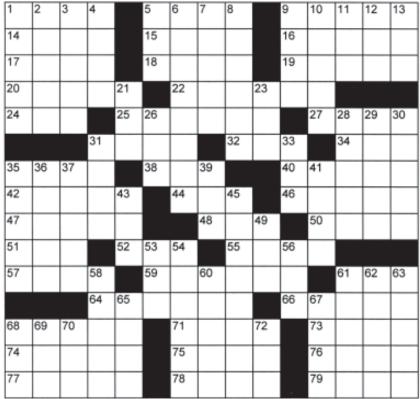
Mrs. Norris is one

Bullfight cheer

Madam What Harry talks

Lease

"Something wicked this way comes ..." to the 100th ASG on June 18. Let this puzzle serve as your refresher for all things Harry Potter. Edited by Allison Eckel



Constructed using Crossword Weaver(TM)

### Across

- Dorothy's dog 5 Association (abbr.)
- Fawkes brings this to
- 14 Opaque gem
- Harry in the Chamber
- 15 Aka Abominable
- Snowman 16 What Harry's dad

- Meager 18 What a pixie grabs Let up
- Nimbus 2000 is one Capital of Lesotho

left him

- Rested Open declaration
- Thick carpet
- Type of cheese Football assoc.
- Yes, to Madame Maxime
- Hermione portrayer
- Dynamite Artery
- Makes a sound like
- a lion
- Hamilton
- 46 Buffalo
- 47 Prods 48 Free of
- 50 Bird's home
- 51 Pressure unit
- 52 Type of leaves read in Divination
- What sets Dobby free
- Technology (abbr.) 59 Smart
- 61 Cycles per second Harry and Ron fly this
- car to school 66 Harry and friends ride
- this to school 68 Raccoon-like animal
- 71 Institution (abbr.) 73 Volcano

- 74 Foreign-born Treaty organization
- What a vampire bites
- firma
- True Grit star
- Campbell The Whomping Willow is one

### Down

- Burial sites Musical
- production
- Type of cards read
- in Divination Margarine
- Sailor's yes
- Underwater
- "That's the last \_\_!"
- Maker of Pathfinder Harry's trademark
- 10 Dumbledore's first
- 11 Snake
- 12 Scabbers is this 13 Stretch to make do
- 21 Bad (prefix)
- 23 Dobby is one 26 Served in war
- 28 A centaur is half this
- 29 Cars
- 30 Hagrid is half this
- 31 Naked
- 33 Scientist's playroom
- 35 Burst outward
- 37 Hogwarts teaches this

- 36 \_\_ code

- 39 Sticky black
- substance
- What a pig says
- Concord e.g.
- Aversion
- Buck's mate
- 53 Chicken creation Sickly
- Central daylight time
- One who despises
- 60 Last

- 61 Serve
- Quidditch is played 72 2,000 pounds
- ISNI N I A A T A I J D N A TECH GILFTED T E A S O C K RIDMEST ATROA T N T A M M 3 BLEUMFLEOUI B A H S B J A W O V A T A S E A R S A B A E YELL CLOAK NSSY SABRE

### Sports and Fitness

# Hohenfels youths sweep 100th ASG softball, baseball

BY JERRY MAYHEW
HOHENFELS YOUTH SPORTS DIRECTOR

Youth Sports ended another season of baseball and softball last month with the 100th Area Support Group Championship, held May 22 and 23 in Vilseck.

In Bantam boys baseball, the Hohenfels Rangers started with a 16–1win over the Vilseck Cardinals.

Later that day, the Vilseck Cubs played the Hohenfels Highlanders. The Cubs were ahead by two runs when the Highlanders scored, to make the game 2–1. In the fourth inning, the Cubs came alive to score three runs, bringing the score to 5–3.

Errors in late innings by the Highlanders put the game out of reach for them, and the Cubs won 9–5, which sent the Highlanders into the losers' bracket to meet the Hohenfels Rockies.

During the fourth game, the Rockies — short of players — forfeited to the Vilseck Astros, but played for the experience.

In game five, the Rockies forfeited to the Highlanders, although they too played. The Rockies were eliminated from the tournament, and the Highlanders advanced.

On the second day of the tournament, the Rangers met the Grafenwoehr Indians in



the second round of the winners' bracket.

The Rangers lost, 8–5, putting them in the

losers' bracket with one win, one loss and

In that game, the Rangers played the

Highlanders. With one Hohenfels team

for the semifinals slot in the afternoon.

The Rangers took a two-run lead, but

errors allowed the Highlanders to score,

putting the game at 3–2. The game contin-

ued neck-and-neck, and the fourth-inning

score was Highlanders 7, Rangers 6.

losses, the Rangers were eliminated.

The Highlanders widened their lead

during the fifth inning and cruised from

Highlanders, 12-7. With one win and two

The Highlanders advanced to the ASG

then on. The game ended with a win for the

already eliminated, these two fought it out

another game to go.

Photo by Jerry Mayhew finals, held June 5 and 6.

As for the Bantam girls, the Hohenfels Hotshots took the tournament in a sweep — Hotshots 14, Vilseck Angels 1; Hotshots 15, Vilseck Cardinals 3 — and the championship, Hotshots 10, Cardinals 4.

Hohenfels Hotshots won their tournament

in consecutive

games, before

Cardinals, 10-4,

and take the

**Bantam Girls** 

Softball title at

the 100th Area

**Support Group** 

Championship,

held in Vilseck

May 22 and 23.

going on to

defeat the

Vilseck

In the Junior boys division, the Hohenfels Rockies played five innings against the Vilseck Falcons and trailed 0–9, but came back to win the game in the last two innings, 12–10.

Later that afternoon, the Rockies shut out the Vilseck Falcons, 11–0, becoming the 100th ASG champions. They advance to the U.S. Forces Championship, scheduled for June 11 to 13 in Vilseck.

The Hohenfels Rockies were undefeated during the regular season, as well as in the tournament.

## <u>playtime</u>

### Bike through the 'box'

The Combat Maneuver Training Center invites cyclists to go on a 27-kilometer ride through the Hohenfels 'box' on June 12.

Registration will begin at 11 a.m. at Kellermeier's Gasthaus Im Vilstal in Emhof, where the tour will end. Cyclists may also sign up at 12:45 p.m. near Rohrbach on the bicycle trail (follow the signs) or at 1:30 p.m. in Hohenfels at Gate 2.

Entry fee is 2 euros for adults and 1 euro for children aged 14 and under, including a raffle ticket.

### **Unit-level softball champs**

The Operations Group softball team won the 409th Base Support Battalion Season Opener Softball Tournament, as well as the Midnight Madness Softball Tournament.

### **Summer Bowling Club**

Sign up this month for the 409th Base Support Battalion Summer Bowling Club and get reduced lineage rates.

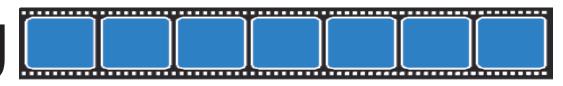
#### Vilseck schedule

In the Strike Shot Tournament June 11 at 7 p.m., "It's all about the first ball." Entry fee is \$15 for five games, and total score wins.

Children can bowl with their dads for Father's Day on June 20. Registration will begin at 10:45 a.m., and the tournament will start at 11 a.m. Entry fee is \$12 per team. For more information, call John Ramsey at

476-2576.

# now showing



Unless otherwise noted, the Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels theaters are closed on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and movies begin at 7 p.m. Because schedules are subject to change by local theaters, please telephone for verification.

### Vilseck, Mike Jurkewicz (09662-83-1790)

Tuesday, June 8Welcome to Mooseport (PG-13)Wednesday, June 950 First Dates (PG-13)Thursday, June 10Catch That Kid (PG)Friday, June 11Shrek 2 (PG)Saturday, June 12Day After Tomorrow (PG-13)

Sunday, June 13

Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind (R)

Monday, June 14

Twisted (R)

**Tuesday, June 15** Shrek 2 (PG) **Wednesday, June 16** Confessions of a Teenage

Drama Queen (PG)

Thursday, June 17

Day After Tomorrow (PG-13)

**Thursday, June 17 Priday, June 18**Day After Tomorrow (PG-13)

Harry Potter and the Prisoner

of Azkaban (PG)

Saturday, June 19 Eurotrip (R)

Sunday, June 20 4 p.m. Harry Potter and the Prisoner

of Azkaban (PG) Shrek 2 (PG) Monday, June 21 Jersey Girl (PG-13)

### Grafenwoehr, Camp Aachen (09641-83-6115)

Tune in to AFN Bavaria, or phone to hear a recording.

### Grafenwoehr, Tower (09641-83-1790)

Thursday, June 10 Spartan (R)
Friday, June 11 Dirty Dancing: Havana Nights

(PG-13)

Saturday, June 12 Shrek 2 (PG)

Sunday, June 13The Passion of the Christ (R)Wednesday, June 16Agent Cody Banks 2 (PG)

Thursday, June 17 Shrek (PG)

**Friday, June 18** Day After Tomorrow (PG-13)

Saturday, June 19 Twisted (R) Sunday, June 20 Eurotrip (R)

### Hohenfels, General Patton (09472-83-1790)

Thursday, June 10 Dawn of the Dead (R)
Friday, June 11 Taking Lives (R)
Saturday, June 12 Never Die Alone (R)
Sunday, June 13 4 p.m. Agent Cody Banks 2 (PG)
Shrek 2 (PG)

Wednesday, June 16 Dirty Dancing: Havana Nights

(PG-13)

**Thursday, June 17** Troy (R) **Friday, June 18** Shrek 2 (PG) **Saturday, June 19** 4 p.m. Shrek 2 (PG) Twisted (R)

Sunday, June 20 4 p.m. Agent Cody Banks 2 (PG)

Eurotrip (R)

### previews • previews •



The infamous Trojan horse is trotted out in Troy.

### 50 First Dates

Starring Drew Barrymore, Adam Sandler, Rob Schneider A commitment-phobic vet in Hawaii who dates only tourists falls for a woman who has lost her short-term memory.

### Agent Cody Banks 2: Destination London

Starring Frankie Muniz, Hannah Spearritt, Anthony Anderson In this sequel, the teenage CIA agent spends his summer at a secret CIA training camp for kids.

### Catch That Kid

Starring Kristen Stewart, Corbin Bleu, Max Thieriot A preteen persuades a computer whiz and a mechanical genius to help her crack open a bank vault.

### Confessions of a Teenage Drama Queen

Starring Lindsay Lohan, Adam Garcia, Alison Pill Catapulted into the mall-dwelling wilderness of New Jersey, a New York City teen fears life has come to a halt.

### Dawn of the Dead

Starring Sarah Polley, Ving Rhames, Jack Weber A nurse discovers that her town is filled with flesh-eating ghouls in this remake of the classic 1978 gore-fest.

### Day After Tomorrow

Starring Dennis Quaid, Jake Gyllenhaal, Ian Holm
In *Independence Day*, the world was nearly destroyed by

aliens. Now the enemy is a cataclysmic climate change.

### Dirty Dancing: Havana Nights

Starring Diego Luna, Romola Garai, Patrick Swayze Set in revolutionary Cuba, this update of the 1987 film phenomenon follows a young woman's discovery of love.

### Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind

Starring Jim Carrey, Kate Winslet, Kirsten Dunst A man undergoes a medical procedure to erase the memory of his ex-girlfriend. While unconscious, he takes a journey through his mind, reliving their moments together.

### Eurotrip

Starring Scott Mechlowicz, Michelle Tractenberg, Jacob Pitts After his Berlin-based pen pal deactivates her e-mail, a boy and his friends embark on a raucous trip to win her over.

### Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban

Starring Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint, Robbie Coltrane Harry learns that a dangerous wizard has escaped Azkaban prison and is believed to be searching for him.

### Jersey Gir

Starring Ben Affleck, Raquel Castro, Liv Tyler
A Manhattan widower moves with his daughter to New
Jersey, where he finds a new romantic interest.

### Laws of Attraction

Starring Pierce Brosnan, Julianne Moore, Michael Sheen Maybe getting married first is the best way to fall in love. Two divorce lawyers wonder how bad their chances could be.

### Never Die Alone

Starring DMX, David Arquette, Michael Ealy
This film noir depicts a hard-boiled criminal who suffers a
violent death and the journalist whose life he changes.

### Secret Window

Starring Johnny Depp, John Turturro, Maria Bello In this psychological thriller based on a Stephen King novella, an eccentric author is targeted by a deranged man.

### Shrek 2

Starring Eddie Murphy, Mike Myers, Cameron Diaz More fairy tales are lampooned as Shrek faces his new inlaws in this sequel to the Academy Award winner.

### Spartan

Starring Val Kilmer, Derek Luke, William H. Macy

A military officer is recruited to find the daughter of a high-ranking government official.

### Starsky and Hutch

Starring Ben Stiller, Owen Wilson, Vince Vaughn
This big-screen version of the 1970s television series
opens on the duo's first day on the beat together.

### Taking Lives

Starring Angelina Jolie, Ethan Hawke, Kiefer Sutherland A top FBI profiler realizes that a chameleon-like killer is assuming the lives and identities of his victims.

### Troy

Starring Brad Pitt, Eric Bana, Orlando Bloom
In ancient Greece, the passion between Paris, prince of
Troy, and Helen, queen of Sparta, ignites a devastating war.

### Twisted

Starring Ashley Judd, Samuel Jackson, Andy Garcia A police detective becomes embroiled in a hunt for a serial killer when she realizes the corpse is an ex-boyfriend.

### Van Helsing

Starring Hugh Jackman, Kate Beckinsale, Richard Roxburgh Set in 19th-century London, Rome, Paris and Transylvania, this film is a cutting-edged spin on classic monster movies.

### Welcome to Mooseport

Starring Gene Hackman, Rav Romano, Maura Tierney Bucolic Mooseport, Maine, is shaken up by the arrival of a former U.S. president who has chosen to retire there after his bitter divorce.



Sir Michael Gambon stars as Professor Dumbledore in *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*.